MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know the total number of teachers in primary classes under private management, who do not get any grant-in-aid just at present?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: The total number has been estimated to be 1714.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know the reason in not proposing to give grants to the remaining persons?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: They have not become eligible for the grant under the rules. A school must be a complete Primary School before aid is given.

PRESIDENT: Before putting this to the vote I should like to announce to the honourable House the intention of the Government in regard to Primary Education. A class of teachers in Primary Schools have been very conspicuously brought to the notice of the Government. These poor people are supposed to get salaries from 8 to 10 rupees but really they draw only Rs. 3 or Rs. 4 per month and the rest of the money goes into the pockets of various functionaries up to the Manager. Taking everything into account, as soon as possible, when the present strain in the food supplies is over, Government propose to take under control the entire Primary Education of the State so that every teacher would be a Government servant. The scheme will be spread over a period of years and when it is properly matured, it will be put forward.

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXIII.—UPLIFT OF BACKWARD COMMUNITIES.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARN PILLAI: Sir, I move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 5,000 under Demand XXIII—Uplift of Backward Communities. Sir, in extension of the policy of Government to give greater facilities to the pupils belonging to the Backward Communities, it is now proposed to start two hostels for those pupils who have been granted the benefit of full fee concessions. These hostels are to be started one in North Travancore, *viz.*, at Kottayam and another in South Travancore, *viz.*, at Nagercoil. It is well known to the honourable members of this House that there are no facilities for hostel accommodation for the pupils of the Backward Communities who have to shift for themselves or be accommodated in hostels intended for particular communities. This is only the first step in a comprehensive scheme and the expenditure on this account will come to about Rs. 5,000 which I hope the House will sanction.

The motion was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XXIV—MEDICAL.

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKAR (*Secretary to Government*): Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 9,000 under Demand XXIV—Medical. This amount is required to give credit to the Forest Department on account of the free grant of timber to the Shashtiabdapoorthi Memorial Committee, Alleppey for the construction of a new out-patient block and a general ward in the District Hospital there. As the invoice for the

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supply was only received recently, it was not possible to provide for the amount in the current year's budget. The supplementary grant is necessitated as there was no surplus available in the sanctioned allotment. The Committee constructed the building according to the plan approved by the Surgeon-General and the Chief Engineer. The building was handed over to the Government in November last. The Committee spent more than Rs. 15,000 from its own fund and it is expected that another Rs. 3,000 more would be spent for furnishing it. For the information of the House I may add that the Surgeon-General has stated that the new out-patient block at Alleppey is the best of its kind in the whole State. I hope the House will be pleased to sanction the grant.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: ഇതിലേക്കുവേണ്ടി ഇതിനുമുമ്പ് ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോട് അപേക്ഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKAR: ഇതിനുമുമ്പും ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോട് അപേക്ഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: Sir, I wish to raise some points regarding that grant. Not that I oppose the grant but I do strongly disapprove the reasons given by the Government member for a motion like this. Sir, the out-patient block is a very useful one especially in a town like Alleppey. In addition to its usefulness there is the very important fact that the block has been constructed as a Shashtiabdaputhi Memorial. The Dewan's Shashtiabdapurthi was about 3 years back.

PRESIDENT: Even to-day I am getting applications from persons who want to get an ultimate favour to have recourse to this Shashtiabdapurthi idea.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: I know that you are able to withstand this. Sir, the Shashtiabdapurthi Committee considered the idea of having a building as an out-patient ward and for this they collected money and completed the building. Government have graciously, properly and justly made a free grant of timber for this necessary institution. According to me, the Government of Travancore exercised the authority to grant timber. Then how can this question be brought into this arena for discussion after the lapse of these three years? Sir, it is a mistaken procedure.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: It is only a matter of adjustment of accounts. That is to say, this timber is sold from the Forest Department. The accounts in the Forest Department show this disbursement, but it has really gone over to the Medical Department. Thus it can be seen that it is only a matter of adjustment of accounts. In fact, this adjustment should have been questioned by the Public Accounts Committee when the Audit and Appropriation Report was placed before them. And, this adjustment has been made.

PRESIDENT: I take it that the actual handing over of timber was not delayed.

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SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: My friend Mr. Parameswaran Pillai, has established a reputation for relevant, cogent, and conclusive argument. To-day I cannot give him that credit. He has given me now a target which is wide enough for attack. Government have asked for a supplementary grant. So far as I am able to say, I do not see any need for a supplementary grant for the adjustment of accounts. To come to this House and ask for a supplementary grant in the name of adjustments of accounts—that is what I object to. I first of all said that I do not object to the timber being granted. Apart from personal considerations I am not going to be silent in this matter for this reason. Government did a very good thing in giving timber when it was applied for by a Committee for the purpose of a hospital. That Committee was able to make money. After the timber was granted, merely because somebody committed a mistake somewhere in the matter of adjustments or in some other manner, Government have now come here for this grant. I am very sorry that the Shashtiabdapurthi should be drawn into the vortex of this controversy. There are so many as 65 or 70 memorials and it passes my comprehension why with regard to this one Government should come forward for an adjustment of accounts. I certainly dispute this. If at all, they ought to have come before the House for a grant and not for the adjustment of accounts. If some officer was at fault, he must be dealt with properly. We do not want to be parties to all this here.

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKAR: I do not understand what the honourable member has said. What happened was this. Two years ago Government sanctioned the timber. The Committee took delivery of it as and when they wanted. The Accountant-General got the last invoice only very recently. Then the matter came to Government for sanction. This is the reason for the delay in appraising the House of the expenditure on this account.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know whether the timber was not sold by the Forest Department?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKAR: The timber was delivered to the Committee at the instance of the Government.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: If it was delivered, then what is the fun for this adjustment of accounts?

MR. A. LEKSHMINARAYANA AYYAR: Whether it is a grant in kind or money the vote of the Legislature is required.

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXV—AYURVEDA.

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKAR: I move for a grant of Rs. 950 under Demand XXV - Ayurveda. This amount is required for payment under Examination charges for conducting Public Examinations in Ayurveda in the State. Already a provision of Rs. 900 was allotted in the current year's budget. The reason why I come forward for another amount is this: Last year, there was a provision for Rs. 750 under the same head. When the Director sent up his estimate of the Examination charges he included certain items of expenditure for

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